

## **Associated Builders and Contractors Honors Florida's Top Construction Projects**

**TAMPA, Fla., May 8th**– Associated Builders and Contractors Florida Gulf Coast Chapter (ABC) honored 76 projects collectively worth over \$3 billion at the 2017 Excellence in Construction Awards during a ceremony held May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Downtown Tampa Hilton.

“I am proud to honor the commitment to world-class safety, superior craftsmanship and cutting-edge innovation that these Associated Builders and Contractors members and their employees brought to the jobsite every day,” said 2017 ABC Chapter Chair Todd Fultz, vice president of Manhattan Construction. “The scope of this year’s Excellence in Construction award-winning projects, from sports arenas and hospitals to hotels and universities, proves that if it can be built, ABC members can build them safety, on time and on budget.”

The Excellence in Construction awards program is the industry’s leading competition that honors both general and specialty contractors for innovative and high-quality construction projects. The award honors all construction team members, including the contractor, owner, architect and engineer. The winning projects, selected from entries submitted from along Florida’s west coast, were judged on complexity, attractiveness, unique challenges overcome, completion time, workmanship, innovation, safety and cost.

### **Big Winners**

#### ***Construction User of Year – Tampa International Airport***

Associated Builders and Contractors honored the Tampa International Airport with their Construction User of the Year Award. From 2015-2017, Tampa International Airport’s economic impact on the commercial construction industry was estimated at over \$1 billion. Airport projects includes a 2.6 million-square-foot consolidated rental center near the entrance to the airport, a 1.4-mile automated people mover and an expansion of the Main Terminal. The project has created nearly 9,000 construction-related jobs. The entire airport construction team was on hand to accept this distinguished award. “[The airport team appreciates the recognition for Construction User of the Year, and we are thankful for the many ABC contractors in the local area who are doing a great job for us on the \\$1B, first phase of our Master Plan,](#)” said TPA Executive Vice President of Facilities and Administration Al Illustrato.

#### ***General Contractor Project of the Year - Moss & Associates (Opal Sands Resort)***

Opal Sands Resort is Clearwater Beach is a 15-story, 460,000 square foot resort hotel with 230 rooms including 39 suites. The Opal Sands was a complex project with its mix of commercial systems and residential systems. Moss had to overcome obstacles including wave-crest, seawall repair and a support structure for the pool deck. Moss increased efficiencies of the building layout by using advanced clash

detection technology. Moss was able to resolve thousands of construction conflicts prior to the start of construction.

**Sub-Contractor Project of the Year - *APG Contractors and Engineers*  
(*Raymond James Stadium Renovation*)**

APG was brought on to this high-profile project by Manhattan Construction. The project involved unique challenges including a massive scale renovation and difficult construction schedule. The project utilized over 30 technicians at a time to meet construction deadlines. APG implemented a safe, logical and well-panned labor distribution which met all milestones and finished the project 10 day early.

A full list of 2017 Excellence in Construction Award winners is available on [ABC's website](#).

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Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) is a national construction industry trade association representing nearly 21,000 chapter members. Founded on the merit shop philosophy, ABC and its 70 chapters help members develop people, win work and deliver that work safely, ethically, profitably and for the betterment of the communities in which ABC and its members work. ABC Florida Gulf Coast Chapter is based in Tampa, FL and represents of 400 member companies on Florida's Gulf Coast.